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MEDIA RELEASE

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February 24, 1986
Powder River Examiner
forens.rl

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA FORENSICS CLUB RE-ESTABLISHED AND IN COMPETITION

MISSOULA -

An Intercollegiate Forensics program has been re-established at the University of Montana after a five-year absence, and the results are already rewarding. The university's forensics team competed in a debate tournament at Eastern Montana College Feb. 6-9, with six team members placing as finalists or semifinalists.

Jerry Zier of Broadus was a semifinalist in impromptu speaking. Zier, the son of Marjorie Zier of Broadus and Phillip Zier of Kalispell, is a UM junior in political science.

The university's forensics program originally began in 1895 and enjoyed both state and regional championships for several years. The team sponsored exhibition debates on campus with Oxford and London University teams and routinely hosted the Big Sky Tournament, which attracted entries from more than 30 colleges nationwide each year. The program was discontinued in 1981 due to increased travel costs and budgets.

The forensics program is being offered only during winter quarter for the 1985-86 academic year but will be offered during both the fall and winter quarters of the 1986-87 academic year. The forensics team will attend two more competitions this quarter: the Whitman College Tournament in Walla Walla,

-more-

forensics - add 1

Wash., Feb. 21-23 and the Northwest Cross-Examination Debate Association competition in Tacoma, Wash., March 14-15.

For more information about the program, contact James Flightner, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at UM, 243-2632.

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